

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 772

By Henry

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Milton Shamitz of Nashville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Milton Shamitz; and

WHEREAS, Milton Shamitz was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, an accomplished and successful businessman, soldier, athlete, and family man, Milton M. Shamitz was an extraordinary gentleman whose personal charm, devotion to family and friends, and dedication to duty and honor made him a truly rare and unique individual; and

WHEREAS, raised in Philadelphia, Milton Shamitz was a star athlete in high school as a member of the football team. He went on to continue his education at National Agricultural College in Pennsylvania, where he studied animal husbandry; and

WHEREAS, a talented sportsman on both the diamond and the links, Mr. Shamitz played minor league baseball from 1937-38 as a shortstop for the New Orleans Pelicans and was an avid golfer. He played in a number of professional tournaments, including a round with golf legends Arnold Palmer and Lee Trevino, in addition to claiming the club championship of every club he belonged to during his lifetime; and

WHEREAS, a member of this nation's Greatest Generation, Mr. Shamitz saw action around the world during World War II, including Europe, the Middle East, China, and India; and

WHEREAS, serving with the 9th, 10th, and 14th Air Forces, First Lieutenant Shamitz proudly served in the U. S. Army Air Corps from 1939-1945, flying missions as the commanding

officer of a photographic unit responsible for aerial photographs, mapping, charting, and reconnaissance; and

WHEREAS, Lt. Shamitz completed 1,400 hours of combat flying time and upon his return stateside was assigned to train student pilots in photo reconnaissance. For his exemplary service to his country he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal, the American Defense Service Medal with foreign service clasp, the American Campaign Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with two campaign stars, and the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with three campaign stars; and

WHEREAS, launching a business career after the war, Mr. Shamitz worked primarily in the auto parts industry. Early on, Milton worked as a traveling salesman and Nash car dealer; he later moved into a position with Midas; and

WHEREAS, recognized for his business acumen and alacrity, Milton Shamitz climbed the rungs of the corporate ladder and was named president of Midas, International in the mid-1970s, enjoying a distinguished career with the company; and

WHEREAS, a true gentleman, Mr. Shamitz always endeavored to excel in his every undertaking, be it in the boardroom or on the golf course, and he sought to bring out the best in himself and those around him as exhibited by his fifty-year membership as a Mason; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Shamitz was also deeply devoted to his family and is survived by his beloved wife of sixty-eight years, Roslyn Forstein Shamitz; his daughter and son-in-law, Kay and Larry Leibowitz; his daughter, Enid Kambler; his sister, Cecilia Davids; his grandchildren, Elizabeth Asher, Adam Leibowitz, Joel Mehr, Miriam Leibowitz and Heather Melnick; his great grandchildren, Rebecca Asher, Eli Asher, Abby Mehr, Shayna Leibowitz, Ari Melnick, Daniel Leibowitz, Molly Mehr, Eli Melnick and Benny Leibowitz; as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins and dear friends; and

WHEREAS, Milton Shamitz leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, seldom do gentlemen of Mr. Shamitz's stature walk among us, and it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Milton Shamitz, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Milton Shamitz.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.